
Introduced Version

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. ____**

Introduced by: Mays

A RESOLUTION recognizing Tavis Smiley for his many accomplishments.

Whereas, Tavis Smiley is an author, a political commentator, and a talk show host whose advocacy efforts have earned him numerous awards and recognitions, including the Mickey Leland Humanitarian Award from the National Association of Minorities in Communications and numerous honorary doctorate degrees, including one from his alma mater, Indiana University;

Whereas, Tavis Smiley, one of ten children, was born in Gulfport, Mississippi, on September 13, 1964;

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Whereas, Tavis Smiley and his family moved to Indiana when his father, an Air Force non-commissioned officer, was transferred to Grissom Air Force Base in Bunker Hill, Indiana;

Whereas, Upon graduation from Maconaquah High School, Tavis Smiley attended Indiana University, where he was involved in student government, was accepted into the Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity, and participated in his first of many political and social advocacy campaigns;

Whereas, Tavis Smiley interned as an aide to Tom Bradley, the first African-American mayor of Los Angeles;

Whereas, After his internship, Tavis Smiley returned to Indiana University, where he received his bachelor's degree in law and public policy in 1986;

Whereas, Upon graduation, Tavis served as an aide to Mayor Bradley until 1990;

Whereas, Tavis Smiley became a radio commentator for a Los Angeles urban radio station, broadcasting one-minute daily radio segments concerning local and national current-affairs issues affecting the African-American community;

Whereas, Tavis Smiley expanded his broadcasting career with frequent spots on the Tom Joyner Morning Show, C-SPAN, MSNBC, ABC, CNN, National Public Radio, and the Public Broadcasting Service network;

Whereas, Despite his busy career, Tavis Smiley dedicates numerous hours to community service events;

Whereas, For example, Tavis Smiley returned to his Indiana roots to help spread the word about the value of public television, lending his celebrity and talents to a fundraising event for Indianapolis PBS public broadcasting station WFYI, acting as honorary chairman for the Capital Campaign; and

Whereas, Tavis Smiley is an accomplished author, with eight books to his credit, whose work continues to "enlighten, encourage and empower Black youth": Therefore,



*Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the
General Assembly of the State of Indiana:*

- 1 SECTION 1. That the Indiana House of Representatives
2 recognizes Tavis Smiley's many accomplishments and contributions.
3 SECTION 2. That the Principal Clerk of the House of
4 Representatives transmit a copy of this resolution to Tavis Smiley.

